

Chair of Economics and Social Policy
Prof. Dr. Matthias Wrede

Bachelor Thesis Topics for the Winter Semester 2025/26

Empirical Analyses (with Stata or R) / Empirische Analysen (mit Stata oder R)

The prerequisite for working on an **empirical** topic is proof of appropriate prior knowledge (**e.g., good experience with Stata or R and multivariate regression analysis**). The thesis can be written in either German or English. Students who are interested in one of the following **empirical** topics should **directly contact the topic supervisor** for a short conversation **before submitting** their application to our administrative office. The conversation is meant to clarify the student's existing knowledge and interest, and to possibly reserve the empirical topic for the student.

Individual proposed topics in the areas of housing policy, cooperatives, urban economics, retirement pensions, and political economy can also be discussed.

Additional information and the application form can be found on our homepage:

in English: www.sozialpolitik.rw.fau.eu/studium-lehre/bachelorarbeiten/

in German: www.sozialpolitik.rw.fau.de/studium-lehre/bachelorarbeiten/

Empirical Topics for the WS 2025/26

- Does Human Capital have an Effect on Employment Growth? (Poletto)
 - Literature: Poelhekke, S. (2013). Human Capital and Employment Growth in German Metropolitan Areas: New Evidence. *Regional Studies*, 47 (2), 245-263.
 - Data: Penn World Table
- How did Industrialization Influence Voting Behavior in early 1920s Italy? (Poletto)
 - Literature: Albanese G. & G. de Blasio (2021). Industrialization, Turnout, and Left-Wing Vote, *Economics Letters*, Volume 206.
 - Data: Acemoglu D., De Feo G., De Luca G. & G. Russo (2022). War, Socialism, and the Rise of Fascism: An Empirical Exploration. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 137 (2), 1233–1296.
- Effects of Municipal Mergers on Voting Behavior /
Auswirkungen von Gemeindezusammenschlüssen auf Wahlverhalten (Müller)
 - Literature: Blesse, S., & Roesel, F. (2019). Merging County Administrations-cross-national Evidence of Fiscal and Political Effects. *Local Government Studies*, 45(5), 611-631.
 - Data: Statistische Ämter des Bundes und der Länder
- Influence of Cultural Background on Redistribution Preferences /
Einfluss der kulturellen Herkunft auf Umverteilungspräferenzen (Müller)
 - Literature: Luttmer, E. F. P., & Singhal, M. (2011). Culture, Context, and the Taste for Redistribution. *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, 3 (1): 157-79.
 - Data: European Social Survey (ESS)

- Effects of Unemployment on Life Satisfaction /
Auswirkungen von Arbeitslosigkeit auf Lebenszufriedenheit (Göschl)
 - Literature: van der Meer, P.H. (2014). Gender, Unemployment and Subjective Well-Being: Why Being Unemployed Is Worse for Men than for Women. *Social Indicators Research* 115, 23–44.
 - Data: SOEP (ALLBUS)

- Relationship between Income and Health /
Zusammenhang von Einkommen und Gesundheit (Göschl)
 - Literature: Reche, E., König, H. H., & Hajek, A. (2019). Income, Self-Rated Health, and Morbidity. A Systematic Review of Longitudinal Studies. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 16(16), 2884.
 - Data: SOEP (ALLBUS)

- Impact of Internal and International Migration on Rents and Real Estate Prices /
Einfluss der internen und internationalen Migration auf Mieten und Immobilienpreise (Wrede)
 - Literature: Unal, U., Hayo, B. & Erol, I. (2024). The Effect of Immigration on Housing Prices: Evidence from 382 German Districts. *Journal of Real Estate Finance and Economics*. 1-39. 10.1007/s11146-024-09988-x.
 - Data: RWI-GEO-RED and Regionalstatistik

- The Housing Situation of People with a Migrant Background in Germany /
Die Wohnungssituation von Menschen mit Migrationshintergrund in Deutschland (Wrede)
 - Literature: Drever, A.I. & Clark, W.A.V. (2002). Gaining Access to Housing in Germany: The Foreign-minority Experience. *Urban Studies* 39. 2439-2453.
 - Data: Sozio-ökonomisches Panel (SOEP)